Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231

MARK R NELSON 3830 SHERIDAN AVE SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS MN 55410

COPY MAILED

AUG 3 0 2002

In re Application of

Ludwig, et al. Application No. 09/927,920 Filed: August 10, 2001 Title: PRODUCT IDENTITY PRESERVATION AND TRACING

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

LETTER

Dear Mr. Nelson:

You are named as a joint inventor in the above-identified United States patent application filed under the provisions of 35 USC 116 (United States Code) and 37 CFR 1.47(a), Rules of Practice in Patent Cases. Should a patent be granted on the application you will be designated therein as a joint inventor.

As a named inventor you are entitled to inspect any paper in the file wrapper of the application, order copies of all or any part thereof (at a prepaid cost per 37 CFR 1.19) or make your position of record in the application. Alternatively, you may arrange to do any of the preceding through a registered patent attorney or agent presenting written authorization from you. If you care to agent presenting written authorization from you. If you care to join the application, agent of record (see below) would presumably assist you. Joining in the application would the filing of an appropriate oath or declaration by you pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63.

Telephone inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to Petitions Attorney Cliff Congo at (703) 305-0272. Requests for information regarding your application should be directed to the File Information Unit at (703) 308-2733. Information regarding how to pay for and order a copy of the application, or a specific paper in the application, should be directed to the Certification Division at (703) 308-9726 or 1-800-972-6382 (outside the Washington D.C. area).

Beverly M. Flanagan

Supervisory Petitions Examiner

Office of Petitions Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy

Kent J. Sieffert Shumaker & Sieffert, P.A. 8425 Seasons Parkway, Suite 105 St. Paul, MN 55125 (651)735-1100